

## Documentation for Computer Ice Animation Files

Computer animations portray the daily progression of Great Lakes ice cover for each winter from 1973 to 2002. The animations contain a color bar legend, "**Percent Ice Cover**", and a month-day-year display which cycles from December 1 through May 31 (May 30 for leap years) as the animation plays (see Fig. 1). A bar to the right of center cycles through three positions each day and indicates if the ice cover for that day is "**Observed Data**", "**Interpolated Data**", or "**No Data**". The animations can be viewed or downloaded in AVI and FLC formats.

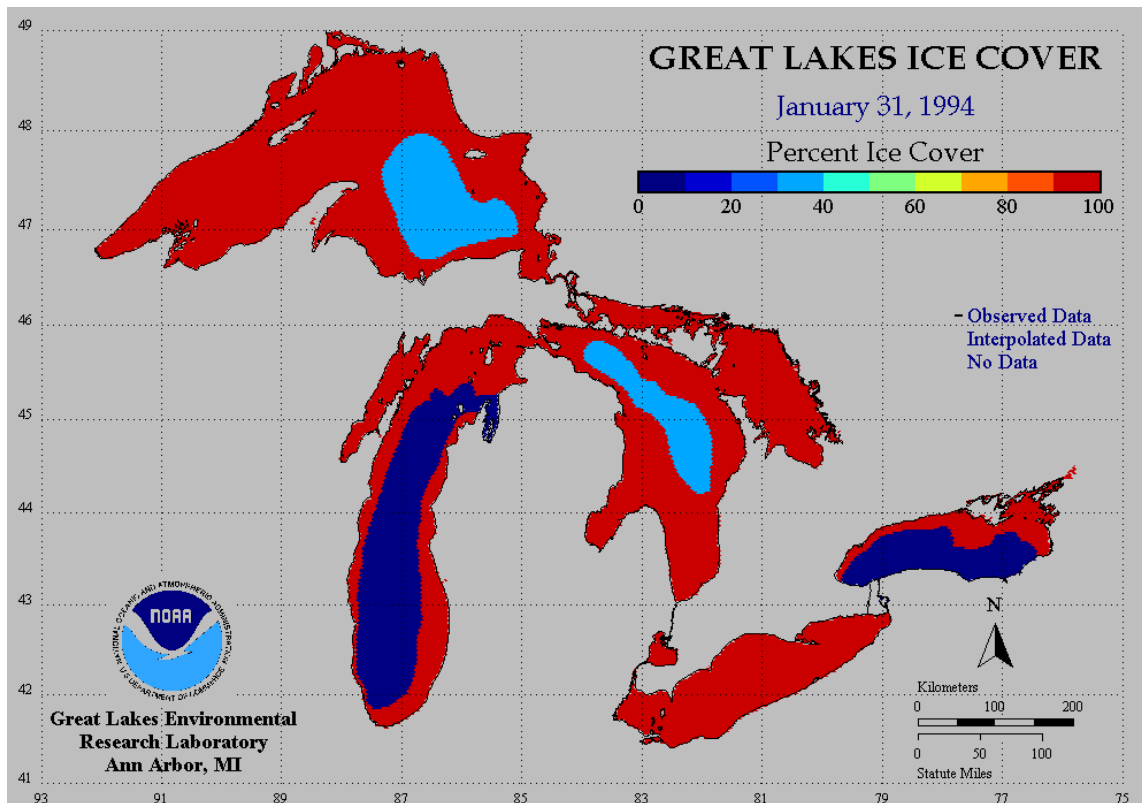


Figure 1. Example of a frame from an animation for winter 1994.

The animations are based on ice charts from the National Ice Center (NIC) and the Canadian Ice Service (CIS), indicated by the file names. There are seven winters (1989 through 1995) when separate animations were produced for NIC and CIS ice charts. Prior to 1989 only CIS animations are available and after 1995 data to make animations contains both NIC and CIS ice charts even though the file name indicates "nic".

A description of ice charts used to make animations and data reduction and analysis methods are given in Assel and Norton (2001) and in an electronic supplement to that paper at Web site: [http://www.agu.org/eos\\_elec/00259e.html](http://www.agu.org/eos_elec/00259e.html)

Assel, R. A. and D. C. Norton. 2001. Visualizing Laurentian Great Lakes Ice Cycles. EOS Transactions of the American Geophysical Union. Vol 82.